

## Scheduling Your June 15<sup>th</sup> Hill Day Meetings

We are looking forward to seeing you in-person in just a few short weeks! After two years of virtual meetings, we are excited about the opportunity for you to meet with your legislators on Capitol Hill once again. As you know, these meetings are crucial for continuing to build relationships with your legislators and their staff in an effort to highlight the policy priorities that are crucial to continued access to lifesaving mental health and substance use disorder services. This document contains all the information you need to schedule meetings with your legislators. If you have any questions, contact Natalie Weiner at [NatalieW@TheNationalCouncil.org](mailto:NatalieW@TheNationalCouncil.org)

**Timing:** Please begin scheduling your meetings with your Representative and Senators for **Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> between 10:00am and 5:00pm** as soon as possible. We understand some flexibility may be required. As there are additional security protocols on Capitol Hill, please leave extra time between meetings. If you have to exit one building and enter another, be aware that you will require an escort.

**Making the request:** A template meeting request email is [linked](#) for your use. You can find contact information for your legislators' schedulers [here](#). We will also reach out to you with that information via email. If you have existing relationships with your legislators' staff, please include those in your initial outreach.

**Transportation to Capitol Hill:** Because individual meetings will take place at different times, you and your colleagues will need to arrange for your own transportation to Capitol Hill via Taxi, Uber or Lyft. The National Council will reimburse you for these expenses.

**Security on Capitol Hill:** Capitol Hill is under increased security protocols at the moment. Rules on the House and Senate sides are different so please confirm with your legislator's staff when you are scheduling your meetings to make sure you are following all required protocols. We recommend you space out your meetings more than in year's past as you will need additional time to get from building to building. For example, as of today, visitors cannot use the Senate tunnels to get from one office building to the next. You will have to exit outside, walk to the next building, and be escorted back inside.

**Legislative Asks:** National Council and its partners are focusing on a series of legislative proposals for Hill Day 2022. For these meetings, it is best to prioritize and focus on one or two legislative proposals. Given current timelines, we are asking all attendees to discuss and urge support for the Excellence in Mental Health and Addiction Treatment Act and as well as another topic of your choosing. In addition to the Excellence Act, we are focusing on the workforce shortage, substance use policies, and 9-8-8 implementation.

**Next Steps:** Once you have your meetings scheduled, [please share the details with us!](#) We will follow up before your meetings with talking points and facts sheets. As you know, things in Congress can change quickly, so we are waiting until it is closer to your meetings to make sure the information is as up-to-date as possible. If you would like any additional information in advance of your meetings, or need assistance scheduling your meetings, please let Natalie know.